

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A medical chair comprising:
 - 2 a seat section;
 - 3 a radiolucent back rest pivotally secured to said seat section such that it may selectively extend from said seat section at desired positions in relation thereto; and
 - 6 a back rest actuator to selectively position said radiolucent back rest in relation to said seat section, wherein said back rest actuator does not compromise the radiolucent property of said radiolucent back rest.
- 1 2. The medical chair of claim 1, wherein said back rest actuator is located beneath said seat section.
- 1 3. The medical chair of claim 2, wherein said back rest actuator is controlled electronically.
- 1 4. The medical chair of claim 3, wherein said back rest actuator is controlled through a remote control, so that said radiolucent back rest is positionable from points distant from the medical chair.
- 1 5. The medical chair of claim 2, wherein said back rest actuator functions to adjust the angle of extension of said radiolucent back rest in relation to the plane of said seat section, wherein the angle of extension of said radiolucent back rest may range from substantially perpendicular to the plane of said seat section in a chair configuration to substantially parallel to the plane of said seat section in a stretcher configuration.
- 1 6. The medical chair of claim 1, wherein the medical chair further comprises:

2 a leg support section pivotally secured to said seat section such that it may
3 selectively extend from said seat section at desired positions in relation thereto;
4 and

5 a leg support actuator that functions to adjust the position of said leg
6 support section in relation to said seat section, wherein the position of said leg
7 support section may range from substantially perpendicular to the plane of said
8 seat section, in a chair configuration, to substantially parallel to the plane of said
9 seat section, in a stretcher configuration, wherein said leg support actuator and
10 said back rest actuator are located beneath said seat section.

1 7. The medical chair of claim 1, further comprising:

2 a push bar pivotally attached to said radiolucent back rest to move
3 between an operative position, wherein said push bar is used to maneuver the
4 medical chair, and a storage position, wherein said push bar does not compromise
5 the radiolucent property of said radiolucent back rest.

1 8. A medical chair comprising:

2 a radiolucent back rest; and

3 a push bar pivotally attached to said radiolucent back rest to move
4 between an operative position, wherein said push bar is used to maneuver the
5 medical chair, and a storage position, wherein said push bar does not compromise
6 the radiolucent property of said radiolucent back rest.

1 9. The medical chair of claim 8, wherein said push bar, in said storage position, does
2 not obstruct the proper positioning of said medical chair in radiographic and
3 fluoroscopic machines.

1 10. The medical chair of claim 8, further comprising:

2 a back rest actuator to selectively position said radiolucent back rest in
3 relation to said seat section, wherein said back rest actuator does not compromise

4 the radiolucent property of said radiolucent back rest.

1 11. The medical chair of claim 8, further comprising a locking mechanism that
2 selectively locks said push bar in its operative position, said push bar being
3 pivotally attached to said radiolucent back rest by said locking mechanism.

1 12. The medical chair of claim 8, wherein the medical chair further comprises:
2 a seat section;

3 a leg support section, said leg support section and said radiolucent back
4 rest being pivotally secured to said seat section such that they may selectively
5 extend from said seat section at desired angles in relation to the plane of said seat
6 section;

7 a leg support actuator that functions to adjust the angle of extension of
8 said leg support section in relation to the plane of said seat section, wherein the
9 angle of extension may range from substantially perpendicular to the plane of said
10 seat section in a chair configuration of the medical chair to substantially parallel
11 to the plane of said seat section in a stretcher configuration of the medical chair;
12 and

13 a back rest actuator that functions to adjust the angle of extension of said
14 radiolucent back rest in relation to the plane of said seat section, wherein the
15 angle of extension of said radiolucent back rest may range from substantially
16 perpendicular to the plane of said seat section in said chair configuration to
17 substantially parallel to the plane of said seat section in said stretcher
18 configuration, and wherein said leg support actuator and said back rest actuator
19 are located beneath said seat section and do not compromise the radiolucent
20 property of said radiolucent back rest.

1 13. The medical chair of claim 12, further comprising:

2 a foot rest section pivotally secured to said leg support section about an
3 axis and providing a foot platform;

4 a foot rest link secured between said foot rest section and said seat
5 section, wherein said foot rest link maintains said foot platform substantially
6 parallel to the plane of said seat section as said leg support actuator functions to
7 adjust the position of said leg support section in relation to the plane of said seat
8 section.

1 14. A medical chair comprising:

2 a seat section;

3 a leg support section pivotally secured to said seat section such that it may
4 selectively extend from said seat section at desired positions in relation thereto;
5 and

6 a leg support actuator that functions to adjust the position of said leg
7 support section in relation to said seat section, wherein the position of said leg
8 support section may range from substantially perpendicular to the plane of said
9 seat section, in a chair configuration, to substantially parallel to the plane of said
10 seat section, in a stretcher configuration;

11 a foot rest section pivotally secured to said leg support section about an
12 axis and providing a foot platform that remains substantially parallel to the plane
13 of said seat section as said leg support actuator functions to adjust the position of
14 said leg support section in relation to the plane of said seat section.

1 15. The medical chair of claim 14, further comprising a foot rest link secured between
2 said foot rest section and said seat section, wherein said foot rest link maintains said foot
3 platform substantially parallel to the plane of said seat section as said leg support actuator
4 functions to adjust the position of said leg support section in relation to the plane of said
5 seat section.

1 16. The medical chair of claim 14, further comprising:

2 a radiolucent back rest pivotally secured to said seat section such that it
3 may selectively extend from said seat section at desired positions in relation

4 thereto; and

5 a back rest actuator to selectively position said radiolucent back rest in
6 relation to said seat section, wherein said back rest actuator does not compromise
7 the radiolucent property of said radiolucent back rest.

1 17. The medical chair of claim 14, further comprising:
2 a radiolucent back rest; and
3 a push bar pivotally attached to said radiolucent back rest to move
4 between an operative position, wherein said push bar is used to maneuver the
5 medical chair, and a storage position, wherein said push bar does not compromise
6 the radiolucent property of said radiolucent back rest.

1 18. A method for performing radiographic and fluoroscopic procedures on a patient,
2 the method comprising the steps of:
3 supporting the patient in a medical chair comprising:
4 a seat section,
5 a radiolucent back rest pivotally secured to said seat section such
6 that it may selectively extend from said seat section at desired positions
7 in relation thereto; and
8 a remote control that controls the positioning of said radiolucent
9 back rest relative to said seat section so that said radiolucent back rest is
10 positionable from points distant from the medical chair;
11 provisionally positioning the medical chair in a radiographic or
12 fluoroscopic machine so as to provisionally position the patient supported thereon
13 for a radiographic or fluoroscopic procedure; and
14 adjusting the positioning of the medical chair and patient supported
15 thereon with said remote control.

1 19. A medical chair comprising:
2 a base;

3 a seat section supported over said base on a telescoping column such that
4 the seat section is selectively raised or lowered in relation to said base;

5 at least one side rail on said seat section and movable between a use
6 position, where it extends upwardly from said seat section, and a storage position
7 where it extends downwardly from said seat section;

8 means for rotating said seat section relative to said base, wherein said
9 seat section rotates to a position where said at least one side rail, in its storage
10 position, rests between said base and said seat section; and

11 a control switch preventing the selective lowering of said seat section
12 relative to said base, when said seat section is rotated to the position where said
13 at least one side rail, in its storage position, rests between said base and said seat
14 section.